

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the rejection of Claims 43-46, 49, 52-59 and 51 is again respectfully requested. Applicants incorporate by reference herein their previous comments as to why it would not have been obvious to combine the Ong et al. Neerinck et al., Hashimoto et al. and Ichimura et al. documents. And even with that impermissible hindsight reconstruction, the resulting hypothetical would not produce the method claimed herein. For example, no matter how broadly the Office is entitled to read claims while remaining within the bounds of reasonableness, etching is simply not a cleaning process. The Examiner will not likely be able to point to any evidence in this record to the contrary.

Accordingly, entry of the foregoing amendments and reconsideration of Applicants' arguments are earnestly solicited.

If there are any questions regarding this amendment or the application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated since this should expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

If necessary to effect a timely response, this paper should be considered as a petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response, and please charge any deficiency in fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 05-1323 (Docket #080313.48830D1).

Respectfully submitted,

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James F. McKeown
Registration No. 25,406

CROWELL & MORING LLP
Intellectual Property Group
P.O. Box 14300
Washington, DC 20044-4300
Telephone No.: (202) 624-2500
Facsimile No.: (202) 628-8844
JFM:jeh